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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of reducing artifacts in an image previously processed by block transform encoding may comprise the steps of:

determining block boundaries;

determining an approximate metric of artifact visibility;

optionally interpolating across block boundaries;

adaptively filtering luminance;

optionally adaptively filtering chrominance;

adaptively adjusting local saturation variation; and

adaptively simulating high spatial frequency image detail;

wherein the adaptive steps are executed to an extent or in an amount depending on the metric or standard or measurement of artifact visibility.